

House shall stand adjourned pursuant to that concurrent resolution until 2 p.m. on Wednesday, September 6, 2006.

## Committee Meetings

### ESTATE TAX AND EXTENSION OF TAX RELIEF ACT

*Committee on Rules:* Granted, by voice vote, a closed rule providing for consideration of H.R. 5970. The rule provides one hour of debate on H.R. 5970, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the unified credit against estate tax to an exclusion equivalent of \$5,000,000, to repeal the sunset provision for the estate and generation-skipping taxes, and to extend expiring provisions, and for other purposes, in the House equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of H.R. 5970. The rule provides one motion to recommit H.R. 5970.

### PENSION PROTECTION ACT

*Committee on Rules:* Granted, by voice vote, a closed rule on H.R. 4, to provide economic security for all Americans, and for other purposes, in the House equally divided among and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means and the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of H.R. 4. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit H.R. 4. Testimony was heard from Representatives Kline, George Miller of California and Hoyer.

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## NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D 849)

H.R. 9, to amend the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Signed on July 27, 2006. (Public Law 109-246)

H.R. 2872, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of Louis Braille. Signed on July 27, 2006. (Public Law 109-247)

H.R. 4472, to protect children from sexual exploitation and violent crime, to prevent child abuse and child pornography, to promote Internet safety, and to honor the memory of Adam Walsh and other child crime victims. Signed on July 27, 2006. (Public Law 109-248)

H.R. 5117, to exempt persons with disabilities from the prohibition against providing section 8 rental assistance to college students. Signed on July 27, 2006. (Public Law 109-249)

H.R. 5865, to amend section 1113 of the Social Security Act to temporarily increase funding for the program of temporary assistance for United States citizens returned from foreign countries. Signed on July 27, 2006. (Public Law 109-250)

## CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of July 31 through August 5, 2006

### Senate Chamber

On *Monday*, at 3 p.m., Senate will resume consideration of S. 3711, Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act, with a vote on the motion to invoke cloture thereon to occur at 5:30 p.m.

During the balance of the week, Senate expects to continue consideration of S. 3711, Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act, and any other cleared legislative and executive business, including appropriation bills and conference reports, when available.

### Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

*Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry:* August 2, Subcommittee on Forestry, Conservation, and Rural Revitalization, to hold hearings to examine H.R. 4200, to improve the ability of the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior to promptly implement recovery treatments in response to catastrophic events affecting Federal lands under their jurisdiction, including the removal of dead and damaged trees and the implementation of reforestation treatments, to support the recovery of non-Federal lands damaged by catastrophic events, to revitalize Forest Service experimental forests, 9 a.m., SR-328A.

*Committee on Appropriations:* August 2, Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, to continue hearings to examine progress of the Capitol Visitor Center construction, 10:30 a.m., SD-138.

*Committee on Armed Services:* August 1, to receive a closed briefing from the Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Organization, 11 a.m., SR-222.

August 1, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the Boeing Company Global Settlement Agreement, 2:30 p.m., SH-216.

August 2, Full Committee, to resume hearings to examine the future of military commissions in light of the Supreme Court decision in *Hamdan v. Rumsfeld*, 2:30 p.m., SH-216.

August 3, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine Iraq, Afghanistan and the global war on terrorism; to be followed by a closed session in SR-222, 9:30 a.m., SH-216.

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:* August 2, business meeting to consider an original bill to improve ratings quality for the protection of investors and in the public interest by fostering accountability, transparency, and competition in the credit rating agency industry, 10 a.m., SD-538.

August 2, Subcommittee on Housing and Transportation, to hold hearings to examine efforts to meet the housing needs of veterans, 2:30 p.m., SD-538.

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* August 3, Subcommittee on National Ocean Policy Study, to hold hearings to examine state of the oceans in 2006, 10 a.m., SR-253.

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:* August 2, business meeting to consider the nominations of Drue Pearce, of Alaska, to be Federal Coordinator for Alaska Natural Gas Transportation Projects, and John Ray Correll, of Indiana, to be Director of the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, and Mark Myers, of Alaska, to be Director of the United States Geological Survey, both of the Department of the Interior, and other pending calendar business, 11:30 a.m., SD-628.

August 3, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine S. 2589, to enhance the management and disposal of spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste, to ensure protection of public health and safety, to ensure the territorial integrity and security of the repository at Yucca Mountain, 10 a.m., SD-628.

*Committee on Environment and Public Works:* August 1, Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, and Water, to hold hearings to examine interpreting the effect of the U.S. Supreme Court's recent decision in the joint cases of *Rapanos v. United States* and *Carabell v. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers* on "The Waters of the United States", 2:30 p.m., SD-406.

August 2, Full Committee, to hold oversight hearings to examine the Toxic Substances Control Act and the chemicals management program at Environmental Protection Agency, 9:30 a.m., SD-406.

*Committee on Finance:* August 2, to hold hearings to examine fake IDs relating to border security, 10 a.m., SD-215.

August 3, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine tax code reform issues, 10:30 a.m., SD-215.

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* July 31, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Mark R. Dybul, of Florida, to be Coordinator of United States Government Activities to Combat HIV/AIDS Globally, with the rank of Ambassador, 3 p.m., SD-419.

August 1, Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 3722, to authorize the transfer of naval vessels to certain foreign recipients, Treaty Between the United States and the Oriental Republic Of Uruguay Concerning the Encouragement and Reciprocal Protection of Investment, with Annexes and Protocol, signed at Mar Del Plata, Argentina, on November 4, 2005 (Treaty Doc. 109-9), United Nations Convention Against Corruption (the "Corruption Convention"), adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on October 31, 2003 (Treaty Doc. 109-6), and the nominations of Richard E. Hoagland, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Armenia, Christina B. Rocca, of Virginia, for the rank of Ambassador during her tenure of service as U. S. Representative to the Conference on Disarmament, Philip S. Goldberg, of Massachusetts, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Bolivia, John Robert Bolton, of Maryland, to be the U.S. Representative to the

United Nations, with the rank and status of Ambassador, and the U.S. Representative in the Security Council of the United Nations, to which position he was appointed during the recess of the Senate from July 29, 2005, to September 1, 2005, and to be U.S. Representative to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations during his tenure of service as U.S. Representative to the United Nations, to which position he was appointed during the recess of the Senate from July 29, 2005, to September 1, 2005, Richard W. Graber, of Wisconsin, to be Ambassador to the Czech Republic, and Karen B. Stewart, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Belarus, and a Foreign Service Officer Promotion list, 2:15 p.m., S-116, Capitol.

August 2, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of John C. Rood, of Arizona, to be an Assistant Secretary of State for International Security and Non-Proliferation, 9:30 a.m., SD-419.

*Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:* August 1, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Andrew von Eschenbach, of Texas, to be Commissioner of Food and Drugs, Department of Health and Human Services, and Paul DeCamp, of Virginia, to be Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division, Department of Labor; to be followed by a business meeting to consider pending nominations, 10 a.m., SD-430.

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* August 1, Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, to hold hearings to examine the issue of tax havens and offshore abuses which are undermining the integrity of the Federal tax system, focusing on case histories on the use of offshore trusts and corporations to circumvent U.S. tax, securities and anti-money laundering laws, 9 a.m., SD-106.

August 2, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the status of Iraq construction, focusing on contracting and procurement issues, 10 a.m., SD-342.

August 3, Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information, and International Security, to hold hearings to examine financial management at the Department of Defense, focusing on the components of Financial Improvement and Audit Readiness Plan to improve the overall financial management health of the Department of Defense, including an understanding of other plans involved in improving the financial management infrastructure at the Department, 2:30 p.m., SD-342.

*Committee on the Judiciary:* August 1, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Peter D. Keisler, of Maryland, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit, Valerie L. Baker and Philip S. Gutierrez, each to be a United States District Judge for the Central District of California, and Francisco Augusto Besosa, to be United States District Judge for the District of Puerto Rico, 2 p.m., SD-226.

August 2, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the authority to prosecute terrorists under the war crime provisions of Title 18, 9:30 a.m., SD-226.

August 2, Subcommittee on Constitution, Civil Rights and Property Rights, to hold hearings to examine creating a fair standard for attorney's fee awards in establishment clause cases, 2:30 p.m., SD-226.

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs:* July 31, business meeting to consider the nominations of Patrick W. Dunne, of New York, to be Assistant Secretary for Policy and Planning, and Thomas E. Harvey, of New York, to be Assist-

ant Secretary for Congressional Affairs, both of the Department of Veterans Affairs, Time to be announced, Room to be announced.

*Select Committee on Intelligence:* August 2, closed business meeting to consider pending calendar business, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

August 3, Full Committee, to receive a closed briefing regarding intelligence matters, 10 a.m., SH-219.